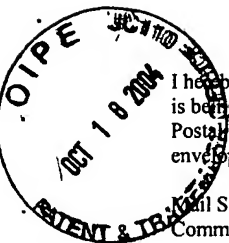


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Attorney for Applicant

Date: 14 October 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 10/706,832
Applicant(s): Philip H. Spano et al
Filed: November 12, 2003
Title: METHOD OF OPERATING A DISPENSING CABINET
Art Unit: 3653
Examiner: Michael E. Butler

Docket No.: DB000972-002

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

To: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action mailed on 2 July 2004 for the above-captioned application, enclosed is the following:

- Response and Amendment;
- Petition for a One Month Extension of Time;
- Fee Transmittal Form; and
- a check in the amount of \$110.00 as the requisite fee.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 20-0888. A copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.

A return postcard is also enclosed. Please date stamp and mail the postcard in order to acknowledge receipt of this correspondence.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward L. Pencoske
Reg. No. 29,688
THORP, REED & ARMSTRONG
One Oxford Centre, 14th Fl.
301 Grant St.
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1425
(412) 394-7789
Attorneys for Applicant

Dated: October 14, 2004